

THE JUVENILE COURT

BY JUDGE E. G. GOWANS.

RECOGNIZING the importance of the public press as an educator of the people and having been a teacher for many years I cannot resist the temptation to try to teach something in the space which has been placed at my disposal.

The juvenile court as an integral part of our system of jurisprudence and as a powerful factor in juvenile betterment has passed the experimental stage. Wherever it has been intelligently tried, it has demonstrated its right to exist. The workers in the juvenile court of this city, if I may be allowed to here speak for them, have labored assiduously to bring their court to a standard that would meet the public recognition and appreciation. We have sought to avoid the publicity which would humiliate the sensitive or gratify the seeker after notoriety. And yet we have not hesitated to sound a warning through the public press when conditions in our judgment demanded such a course.

CAUSES OF DELINQUENCY.

First among causes should be mentioned unsatisfactory homes. These are homes broken up by the entrance of one or more of three D's—Death, Divorce and Desertion—homes in which there is no proper home influence; homes not presided over by a strong man, and a loving womanly woman. Children deprived of these influences are indeed not getting a fair deal in the world. There are other homes not so broken up, that are nevertheless very unsatisfactory on account of the vicious habits of the father or mother, or both. Sometimes this viciousness takes the form of an uncontrollable temper which leaves no room for natural parental affection, sometimes a desire on the part of the father to actually teach his boy bad things, sometimes alcoholism with all of its damning sequelae, and at other times the viciousness of indifference which is almost as bad as the other forms.

Again, there are unsatisfactory homes because the parents in them have no appreciation of the duties and responsibilities of parenthood and have no preparation for such duties. They may be good in a passive sort of way, but they are not desirous that their children shall do the right thing and yet because of their utter lack of preparation for parenthood they have succeeded in establishing most unsatisfactory homes. They have no knowledge of child development, no appreciation of the influence of perfect nutrition, no knowledge of the laws of health, or their application—especially to children, and no appreciation of the power of the home as the great unit of civilization. Other causes are the extremes of poverty and wealth—poverty with its hardships, privations, and child-labor; and wealth with its arrogance and idleness, the use of tobacco and intoxicants, the theaters, reading vicious literature, leading an idle disposition to idleness, lawlessness, gang formation, and evil associations.

Now while I have enumerated a large number of causes, they are all insignificant as compared with the one first mentioned, namely unsatisfactory homes. A great many of these other causes could well be ignored if every home in the land were a satisfactory one. For example, there are very few cases of truancy or malicious mischief on the part of children from satisfactory homes. There are no children on the streets at night from such homes. The parents in such homes co-operate heartily with the court and probation officers in the adjustment of little difficulties, which their children get into.

Take for example the influence of the

street in producing delinquency. Nearly all of the smoking, loafing, use of bad language and violation of the truancy law can be traced to street influence, but the children of satisfactory homes escape these things. So I say again, that the unsatisfactory home is the great cause of delinquency.

In the few cases where the parents themselves are not either directly or indirectly responsible, it will be found that some adult has contributed to the child's delinquency. It may be the man who sells tobacco to boys or the proprietor of a cigar stand who with apparent innocence is teaching boys to gamble through their being permitted to play the slot machines, or the liquor

tutions. We cannot in view of such evidence ignore the influence of heredity in the production of delinquency. In considering this subject, however, it must not be forgotten that in most cases assumed to be the results of hereditary causes the wrong tendency is due to an unconscious imitation of the most familiar elements of the child's environment, and to determine just what is due to heredity and what to environment in the case of any particular child is a most difficult problem. I have been in the habit of charging about nine-tenths to environment and one-tenth to heredity. Now, whether that is at all accurate or not has the advantage of forcing upon us the duty

ing the conditions that exist and after a thorough investigation report as to the suitability of the home or if it is probable that it can be made satisfactory.

Sometimes children are placed in foster homes, the officers always being on the lookout for homes available for such purposes. We have been very materially helped by a fairly large number of volunteer officers serving without remuneration, who have done much to strengthen these unsatisfactory homes. We hope to have more volunteers as well as more paid officers, so that every home that needs help can get it. Of course this help we offer is frequently not accepted.

future citizens themselves? Shall we devote more care to the settlement of a case involving money than to that of one involving the future of a boy or a girl? Or shall we be rational and farseeing in this matter, recognizing that the state is under a great obligation to seek out causes and prevent crime as it is to discover causes and prevent disease?

MEASURING MINUTE DISTANCES. The sensitiveness of the human organism is gross, indeed, compared with that of the marvelous machines man has made.

A photographic plate, coupled with a telescope, discovers millions of stars whose light the retina of the eye does not appreciate; the microphone makes the inaudible tread of a fly sound like the tramp of cavalrymen.

The human heat sense cannot realize a difference of temperature beyond one-fifth of a degree; but the barometer, an instrument 200,000 times as sensitive as the skin, notes a difference of a millionth of a degree. A galvanometer flexes its finger at a current generated by simply deforming a drop of mercury so as to press it out of a spherical shape into that of an egg.

The amount of work done by the wink of an eye equals 100,000,000,000 of the winks marked on the scale of a delicate instrument; but even this performance is surpassed by the "coherers" of Branley of Paris, by which the Hertz waves of wireless telegraphy are caught in their pulsings through space.

The range of impressions which we get from lifting an object is exceedingly small; an ordinary chemist's balance is some million times as sensitive and weighs down the 200th part of a milligram. Without such instruments as these we should know far less about the world than they place within our reach. They make it evident that our sense organs give us reports of but a comparatively small number of comparatively gross stimuli.—TIT-BITS.

THE DECLINE IN MOTORTING.

What we are concerned to discover is whether cases of undelivered mail are declining in motoring. Have the general

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Simpson, Photo.

OFFICERS OF JUVENILE COURT INTERVIEWING BOYS AND GIRLS.

dealer who lets a boy have a bottle of wine on presentation of a note which he knows the boy wrote himself, or a junk dealer who encourages a boy to bring junk, no matter where he gets it, or the man who buys sacks from boys only to find that they had been stolen from his own back yard, or the man who employs a boy of school age without insisting that the boy have a certificate of exemption from the superintendent of schools, or any one of the numerous other ways in which adults are contributing to delinquency, but it will be found that there is an adult in the case.

Space will not permit of more than a mention of the influence of the examples set by men and women of lower lives; that of the yellow press in giving place to all the revolting details of crime and criminal trials, especially those cases of murder where the unwritten law is pleaded as the justification; that of the cheap shows and their posters which make such indelible impression on the mind of youth by their indecent and brutal suggestions.

In all of these causes it will be obvious that we are dealing with the child's environment, but it must not be presumed for that reason that no importance is to be attached to heredity as a cause of delinquency. Unquestionably there are children who have inherited a vicious nature, who are the victims of inherited criminal tendency. A careful study of the antecedents of 45 criminals revealed the following conditions: 35 per cent were the subjects of nervous disease; 62 per cent were victims of alcoholism; 47 per cent showed violent mental disease, and 20 per cent showed general mental backwardness. These 45 were of course criminals serving time in penitentiaries.

of doing our best to improve the environment.

TREATMENT.

Now what is to be done? To merely point out causes without indicating the remedy would be as foolish as for the physician to spend his whole time and energy in making a diagnosis and then with great dignity tell the patient's sorrowing friends what is the matter without telling them what to do. If it be granted that the most pregnant cause of juvenile delinquency is unsatisfactory homes, then one thing is clear—those homes must be improved.

Now, so far as the homes of the future are concerned, they can be improved by creating and working to a new ideal in education which holds that home building is the essential thing—the big thing in life. If education is to prepare for life it must prepare for homebuilding and parenthood. Get away from the old idea of the classical course in the high school. Only 5 per cent of the high school pupils go beyond that work educationally anyway. Let the high school adapt its instructions to the needs of the 95 per cent who never go further.

But whatever is done for the future there must be something done to improve the unsatisfactory homes that already exist. That is the work which the juvenile court is trying to do. We must supplement the home. In these cases when improvement can be made without resorting to radical measures, we advise parents what to do. We try to make the child feel that we are his friend and that in order to be his true friend, we must sustain his father and mother in the proper use of their authority in dealing with him. Probation officers visit the home not-

Parents get offended and characterize our work as an interference without warrant, forgetting the fact that we are investigating a case unless a complaint has been filed by some one, thinking too that we are taking the initiative in the matter, and that they are able to manage their own children without our assistance. The majority of parents, however, co-operate heartily with us, rendering all the assistance they can.

Concerning adults who have been guilty of contributing to the delinquency of children, we have warned offenders and if the offense has been repeated we have filed charges against them in the justice's courts, and pushed the prosecution with considerable vigor.

In view of the conditions which exist and the work we have already done we feel that we are entitled to the help and co-operation of the public generally. We expect the legislature, which is soon to convene, to more adequately provide for the conduct of the work; we expect the sympathy of every right-thinking man and woman in the community. We are making the improvement and strengthening of the unsatisfactory home the objective point in all our work and with the help that we feel we have a right to expect we are hopeful of doing effective work in removing the greatest cause of juvenile delinquency. We are actuated by the desire to make good citizens of the boys and girls who are not getting a "fair deal" in the world. Ours is a campaign for childhood. Boys and girls are at stake. Shall they become desirable or undesirable citizens? Shall the state be more exercised about its material possessions and those of its citizens than about its

stagnation of national trade and the depreciation of invested capital been the root of the trouble? Or is it the cost of motoring, caused by unsatisfactory drivers, driving mishaps, police traps, or the discomfort, danger and annoyance created by all three.—Motoring Illustrated.

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We expect to make some profit, of course, that's what we are here for; but we won't sell you one thing below cost and make it up something else.

People put a worm on a hook and call it a "bait." Some dealers put merchandise on the hook and call it a "leader." A "leader" is a bait and a "bait" is a "leader."

We won't bait you on "leaders" and make you pay for other things in order to regain the profit lost on the "leader."

Why go away from home to trade, when you can buy the goods you want right here and at reasonable prices?

When you buy goods away from home you pay your money and take your choice.

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If you buy goods from us that are not as we represent them, bring them back and we'll replace them or refund your money.

No firm dealing in goods of inferior quality ever makes this offer. We make it because we know our goods are first-class and we want you to feel that an article is good when we say so.

In the city, rent is high; water-tax, electric light, expensive clerk hire—all have to be paid, and you help pay it when you trade there.

Doesn't it stand to reason that we can make you better prices when we avoid that expense? Ever think of it that way?

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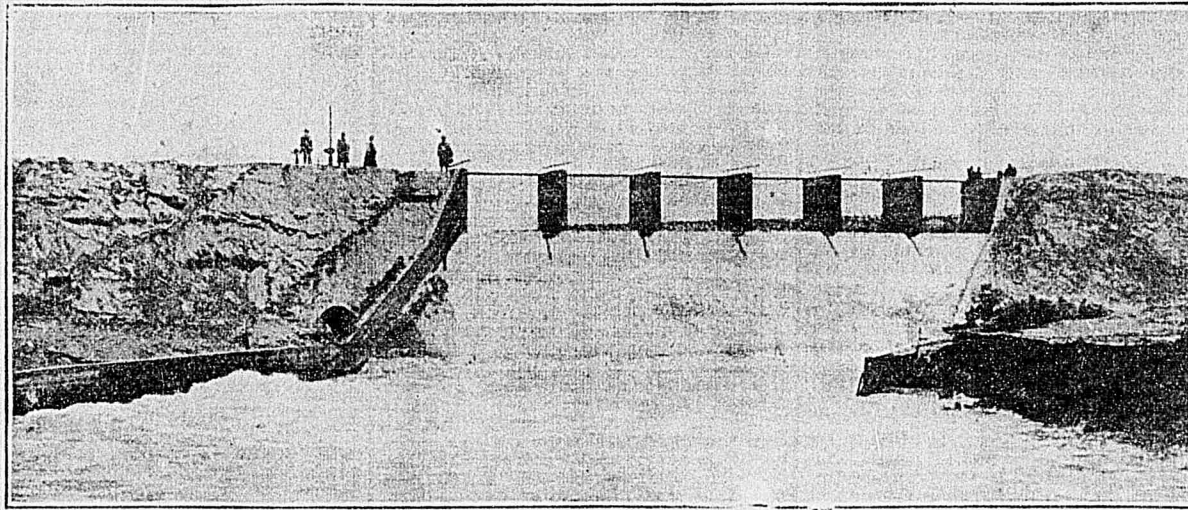
COVERING CAREY ACT IRRIGATED LANDS TEN YEAR PAYMENTS.

ONE hundred and thirty-five miles southwest of Salt Lake City on the main line of the Salt Lake Route there has recently been set aside by the state twenty thousand acres of the best bench land in Utah to be reclaimed under the "Carey Act." This land is located in the valley of the Sevier River, near the new town of Burtner, in Millard County, Utah.

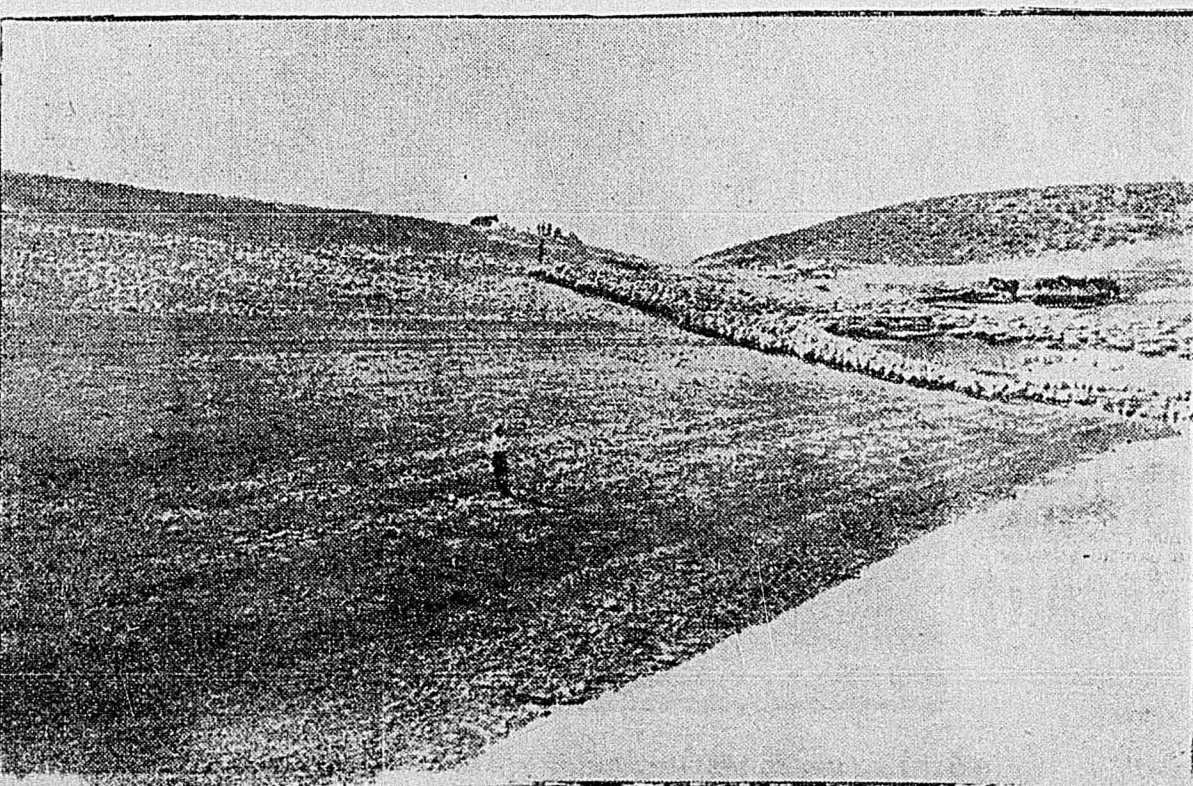
Already a large number of home-seekers have taken advantage of this opportunity of securing good lands at a nominal cost, and it is a fair prediction that during the next three months hundreds of others will flock to this country to share in the reclamation of this land.

All of the land under this segregation is being irrigated by water which is stored in the largest reservoir in the State of Utah, known as the Sevier Bridge Reservoir, situated

in Sanpete and Juab Counties. At this point a mammoth dam has been constructed at an expenditure of a large sum of money. This dam was completed during the past summer and is now storing an immense quantity of water. The construction of this dam is of the most modern type and character, being built under the supervision of eminent engineers to insure its safety and permanency. The height of this structure is 66 feet, being 764 feet wide on the west and 336 feet in width at the bottom. It is so situated that it can easily be raised and the capacity greatly increased. The present capacity of the reservoir is approximately 90,000 acre feet, having an area of 2,790 acres and a drainage area of 3,986 square miles. The provisions made for the discharge tunnel and spillway by the engineers in designing and constructing the dam will permit of the washing out of all



SPILLWAY 120 FOOT CONCRETE SPILLWAY OF RIVERSIDE DIVERTING DAM



UP-CURB FALL OF SEVIER BRIDGE DAM, FORMING THE LARGEST RESERVOIR IN UTAH.

the reservoirs on the stream without in any way endangering the safety or efficiency of the Sevier Bridge Dam. The overflow spillway was cut in solid rock, its depth in this material being six feet on one side and about twenty on the other, and having a width of 120 feet. This wasteway will carry six feet in depth of water.

A discharge tunnel 8 feet high, 13 feet wide and about 425 feet long was cut in solid rock on a level with the bed of the stream for the purpose of drawing water from the reservoir during the irrigating season. The gates controlling the flow of the water are located near the middle of the tunnel. They are raised and lowered by hoisting apparatus that operates in a gate well. There are three of these gates, each being 3 1/2 feet wide by 8 feet in height, and having a total weight of 12 tons. They are set in concrete and are in charge of a keeper.

The water, after being drawn through the discharge tunnel, follows the old channel of the river to a point near Burtner in Millard County, which is near the lands being reclaimed. At this point another large dam has been constructed for the purpose of diverting the water and raising it to the level of these bench lands. The diverting dam is 500 feet long on the east side and has a

maximum height of 36 feet above the river bed. A concrete gate well has also been provided at this point, and steel gates have been put in plan to control the water.

From this point the water is brought through what is known as the Main Convey Canal, from which smaller canals distribute the water to the various parts of the land.

The climate in this section of the country is suitable for most any sort of agriculture, fruits, and grains of all kinds, flourishing most abundantly.

The Burtner Irrigated Lands Company with offices at 623 Judge Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, are selling agents for these lands which are sold for \$40.50 per acre, including perpetual water right.

Under the provisions of the Carey Act the settler is allowed ten years in which to pay for the land, which must be considered a very favorable time limit.

Great activity is already apparent in this locality and thriving farms can be seen throughout the surrounding country.

The Burtner Irrigated Lands Company have arranged for an excursion round trip rate of \$5.75 from Salt Lake City to Burtner, Utah every Tuesday and Friday evening, of which hundreds have taken advantage and viewed this vast tract of bench land.

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